



FREEDOM WATCH



December 7, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from
CNN.com)

Last day to mail packages home

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Today is the last day to mail packages home for delivery by Christmas.

U.N. to keep tight lid on Iraqi declaration

UNITED NATIONS — On the eve of Iraq's official declaration on weapons of mass destruction, the United Nations Friday announced the document will not be given to the U.N. Security Council until weapons inspectors have examined it and possibly even edited out parts. Chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix said any parts of the declaration relating to the proliferation of prohibited weapons "or any other very sensitive thing, we'll say cannot be circulated to anybody." The Security Council agreed to the procedure because various countries are concerned about releasing information that would provide "a training manual for how to build weapons of mass destruction."

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Girl's school opens in Mazar-e-Sharif

Story & photo by Sgt. Robb Huhn
300th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan — American assistance in Afghanistan has taken on many forms throughout history; ranging from the donation of weapons during the Russian occupation of the 1980's, to the current rebuilding of war-ravaged schools, roads, and medical facilities by the American government since last year's ousting of the Taliban. Recently, the United States government demonstrated its commitment to continue Afghanistan's rejuvenation by re-opening the Sultan Razia Girls' School in Mazar-e-Sharif.

The Sultan Razia Girls' School is one of the largest girls' schools in northern Afghanistan. The school



USAID Afghanistan mission director Craig Buck cuts the ribbon dedicating Sultan Razia Girls' School in Mazar-e-Sharif.

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Army-Navy continue storied rivalry

By Spc. Alfredo
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BAGRAM, Afghanistan — The knight comes in to this battle tired, wounded and seeking to end the year on a high note. The goat on the ship sailing in to this affair looks embarrassed, flat and glad to be to docking after enduring, yet, another dismal season.

But, make no mistake about it, that will not deter either from displaying the

types of sportsmanship lacking in today's premiere match-ups of Florida-Miami, Florida State-Notre Dame and Tennessee-Auburn.

Sure, these teams come into the warfront ready to entertain with the networks and the hand-shaking conference executives who make the Bowl Championship Series a joke.

Not Army-Navy.

These academies have shared their ups-and-downs; the Black Knights hoisting a couple of

Heisman winners, the Midshipmen producing the legend of Roger Staubach; Army mired in a 1-10 season, Navy floating 2-30 since 2000.

However, they share something far more important: a brotherhood which is stronger than all the Florida college teams put together. It's a bond that says, "We will face-off today, but we will serve together tomorrow."

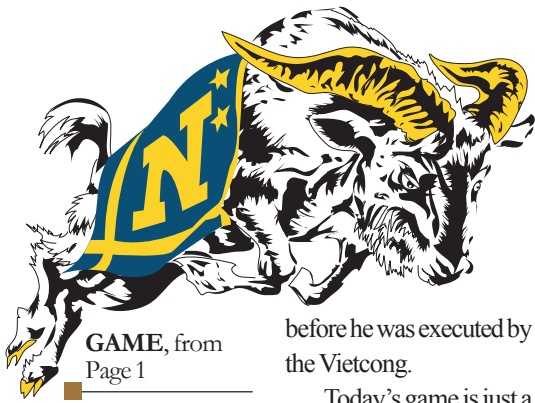
More than 80,000 are expected at Giants Stadium

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The 103rd

**Army
vs.
Navy**

**football game
will be shown
live today, at
2130 (L), on the
Armed Forces
Network, chan-
nels Pacific,
Korea and
Atlantic.**



GAME, from Page 1

in East Rutherford, N.J., for the 103rd meeting between the academies. You could venture many of them will be sent to take part in a much larger battle down the road.

With terrorists hiding and running, Hussein's terror regime seemingly at its twilight and looming war just around the bend, this meeting pales in comparison to the true testament of foes and friendship.

The 1958 undefeated Army team and its lone surviving commander has a story to tell. The commander recalled a teammate who was sent to Vietnam. He said the cadet was so thrilled of having won the game with Navy, but a few years later, the young man died.

The commander said he heard the cadet sing "God Bless America"



before he was executed by the Vietcong.

Today's game is just a simple contest to see who is progressing in the rebuilding process. Nothing else. It's not a game of death. No, that's after the final whistle is blown and the graduates are sent on their missions.

Florida State-Notre Dame? Well, that's a game to determine who wins the \$11 million jackpot or a chance for a player to showcase he's ready to play for the Detroit Lions.

Who cares that the Army leads the series 49-46-7? Who cares Army has won 11 of the last 16 games? Who cares Army won 26-17 last year?

Today, the wounded knight and the goat on the floundering ship will collide to give the college football season a cheap lesson in humility and honor.

Don't miss it.

SCHOOL, from Page 1

was closed during the Taliban regime, and used as a refuge for Taliban forces. As a result, the coalition forces bombed the building last fall. Much of the structure was completely destroyed during the attack

The school grounds were refurbished in two phases, the first phase, completed by the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force, involved debris removal and establishing temporary classrooms for the 12,000 school-age girls in and around Mazar-E-Sharif.

"Part of our and the Transitional government's primary focus is the education of Afghan children, especially females," said Army Col. George P. Maughan, CJCMOTF Commander. "Providing children with the opportunity to learn is one of the best things we can do for Afghanistan... Education is the foundation that forms a stable nation."

CJCMOTF is a military force that has facilitated and funded the completion of hundreds of high impact, humanitarian assistance projects throughout Afghanistan during its first year of inception, many of them schools. The Task Force completes all of its projects through the use of Afghan contractors and laborers and completes them in accordance with the best interest of the Afghan Transitional Authority.

"The Task Force provides humanitarian assistance during a conflict and for a short time after the conflict has resolved," said Army Lt. Col. David Bessho, CJCMOTF Project Coordinator. "Once an area is stabilized, CJCMOTF continues its mission by working with the International and Non-Governmental Organizations to complete projects, like with Sultan Razia."

After CJCMOTF completed Phase One, the United States Agency for International Development, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education in Mazar-E-Sharif, and the International Organization for Migration-Afghanistan Transition Initiative, stepped in for Phase 2. This phase involved the complete physical rehabilitation of the school.

"It's gratifying to know that thousands of girls will be returning to school as a direct result of work that the US and Afghan governments teamed up to complete," said Craig Buck, mission director, USAID Afghanistan. "What's even more gratifying is knowing that these students will be able to learn, and in turn, contribute to the economic progress of this nation."

USAID is an independent federal government agency that receives overall foreign policy guidance from the Secretary of State. The agency works to support long-term and equitable economic growth and advancing U.S. foreign policy objectives by supporting agriculture and trade, global health, and Democracy, along with conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance.

The Sultan Razia Girls School cost over \$200,000 dollars to complete. Attending the ribbon cutting ceremony were representatives from the provincial Ministry of Education in Mazar-E-Sharif, the students and faculty of Sultan Razia Girls' School, along with Buck and Maughan. USAID and U.S. Civil Affairs have worked as a team to complete other projects throughout the war torn countryside, however no project to date will affect more lives than Sultan Razia.

The total rehabilitation of the school entailed removal of debris, the rebuilding and refurbishing of 32 classrooms, childcare centers, two modern bathrooms, and kitchen utilities.

"The United States has a long standing history of extending its helping hand to people and nations overseas struggling to make a better life, recover from a disaster or striving to live in a free and democratic society. It is this compassion that identifies the United States to nations around the world ... and shows the world our true character as a nation." — Author Unknown

HIND SIGHT

43 BC

Cicero, considered one of the greatest sons of Rome, was assassinated on the orders of Marcus Antonius.

1941

Japanese planes raided Pearl Harbor in a surprise attack.

1942

The U.S. Navy launched USS *New Jersey*, the largest battleship ever built.

1970

Poland and West Germany signed a pact renouncing the use of force to settle disputes, recognized the Oder-Neisse River as Poland's western frontier and acknowledged the transfer to Poland of 40,000 square miles of former German territory.

1972

The crew of *Apollo 17*, the last manned mission to the moon, lifted off at Cape Canaveral, Fla.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

Al Qaeda Web site posts new threats

LONDON — A Web site considered al Qaeda's has posted new threats against the west, promising to bring "destruction" to Americans and other westerners if they don't learn the "lesson" of recent al Qaeda attacks, including the attacks on an Israeli-owned hotel and charter plane in Kenya last Thursday. The new message was posted on the Web site run by the Center for Islamic Studies and Research, also known as Alneda, which has carried communiqués from al Qaeda in the past, as well as the group's claims of credit for various terrorist attacks.

U.N.: Torture 'systemic' in Uzbekistan

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — The United Nations said Friday that Uzbekistan routinely used torture to terrorize opponents and obtain confessions which sometimes resulted in courts handing down death penalties. Uzbekistan is home to a U.S. air base used in the campaign in neighboring Afghanistan, and is a key U.S. ally in the anti-terror coalition. Theo van Boven said that during his two-week fact-finding mission he interviewed dozens of torture victims. He said the forms of torture used by Uzbek police and secret services included beatings, electric shocks, immersing the victim's head in water and suffocation by plastic bags.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

The Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff present "Ice Age" tonight at 1530Z at the MWR building.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Panic Room," showing at the same time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Sunny</i> H: 48F L: 19F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 48F L: 23F
Kandahar:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 50F L: 23F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 48F L: 32F
Kabul:	<i>Haze</i> H: 48F L: 19F	<i>Haze</i> H: 48F L: 25F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Clear</i> H: 49F L: 11F	<i>Mostly cloudy</i> H: 45F L: 13F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180.

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Rangers acquire Diaz; perennial All-Star Pudge likely gone

The Rangers acquired catcher Einar Diaz and right-hander Ryan Drese from the Cleveland Indians on Friday for first baseman Travis Hafner and right-hander Aaron Myette.

The move meant the Rangers will most likely not offer Ivan Rodriguez arbitration by the deadline Saturday. That would mean he couldn't re-sign until May 1 with the only major league team he's played.

"It's surprising the club would end its relationship with Ivan Rodriguez without as much as a courtesy call to him or to me," said Rodriguez's agent, Jeff Moorad. "But we understand this is the time of year that things like this happen. It seemed likely that Pudge would move on, now it looks to be a certainty."

Rangers general manager John Hart didn't sound optimistic Friday that anything would happen before the deadline "that dramatically changes the situation."

The Rangers want to reduce their \$107 million payroll, and Hart said the team can't afford the chance of Rodriguez accepting arbitration that could give him more than \$12 million next season.

"I don't think the market has been settled for Pudge and at this point the club's appetite isn't to go into the arbitration process," Hart said. "We don't want to get in a one-year setting and let an arbitrator set the payroll, even though we really like the player."

2002 Bowl Championship Series

TEAM	TOTAL
1. Miami, Fla.	3.53
2. Ohio State	4.01
3. Georgia	9.03
4. USC	9.84
5. Iowa	10.55
6. Washington St.	17.67
7. Oklahoma	18.87
8. Kansas St.	20.05
9. Texas	20.28
10. Notre Dame	20.73
11. Michigan	24.08
12. Colorado	25.97
13. Penn St.	27.69
14. Florida St.	36.12
15. West Virginia	38.43



Army pranksters returning Billy goat to Navy

Billy the goat is being returned to the Naval Academy after he was kidnapped by pranksters from West Point over Veterans Day weekend, following a tradition of Army-Navy pregame hijinx.

The Angora goat, who was residing peacefully on a dairy farm near Annapolis before being snatched by cadets disguised in Grateful Dead T-shirts and ski caps, has been at a farm in Pennsylvania since the misdeed.

"We are notifying our naval counterparts that we are very happy to report that the goat has been located and that their beloved mascot will be returned to them," Lt. Col. James Whaley, a West Point spokesman, said.

There was an anti-mascot-rustling agreement in effect between the academies that some thought would prevent such a heist. But the dishonorable Army cadets went ahead with their scheme anyway. Those responsible were granted amnesty in exchange for disclosing Billy's whereabouts, Whaley said.



2002 NBA standings

Western Conference

Midwest

(1) Dallas	17-1
(3) Houston	10-7
(4) San Antonio	11-8
(5) Utah	11-8
(7) Minnesota	11-9

Pacific

(2) Sacramento	16-5
(6) Phoenix	9-8
(8) Seattle	10-9
Portland	7-9
L.A. Clippers	7-12

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) Philadelphia	15-4
(4) Boston	12-6
(6) New Jersey	12-7
(7) Orlando	12-8
Washington	8-11

Central

(1) Indiana	15-3
(3) New Orleans	13-6
(5) Detroit	12-6
(8) Atlanta	9-10
Milwaukee	8-10



Woods leads after 65 while Mickelson struggles

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Phil Mickelson thinks he might have made a mistake by playing so much golf during the silly season.

Being paired with Tiger Woods only made it look worse Friday at the Target World Challenge.

Woods birdied all the par-5s, took 11 putts on the front nine and laughed when his worst swing of the day wound up two feet from the hole. When the round was over, he had a 7-under 65 and a one-stroke lead over Davis Love III and Padraig Harrington.

Woods was at 11-under 133 and left Mickelson in the dust.

“He had a tough day,” Woods said after playing with his chief rival for the fifth time in eight rounds. “From what I could see, he had a tough time driving the ball.”

Anybody could see that.

By the time they played 11 holes, Mickelson hit three provisionals, asked for two rulings, canceled one of them and was already seven strokes behind Woods for the day.

Lefty finished with a 2-over 74, offered no excuses and questioned only why he was playing so late in the year.

Mickelson typically takes at least two months off when the PGA Tour season ends to spend time with his family.

Solution from Friday's Racing Crossword in the *Freedom Watch*

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

A	F	O	U	L		R	A	N	T		F	O	R	A
B	E	R	N	E		E	R	I	E		A	C	E	D
L	E	A	D	I	N	G	M	A	N		R	A	R	E
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			R	H	E	A		P	E	N	D	A	N	T
G	I	P	P	E	R		S	O	R	E				
O	N	E	A	L		S	A	L	E		S	A	R	A
T	R	A	I	L	I	N	G	A	R	B	U	T	U	S
H	E	L	D		N	E	A	R		O	P	I	N	E
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G	R	E	A	S	E	R		P	I	E	R			
R	O	L	L	E	R		L	I	L		S	E	R	I
I	S	I	T		E	V	E	N	S	T	E	V	E	N
N	I	T	E		S	I	N	G		I	D	E	S	T
D	E	E	R		T	E	A	S		P	E	S	T	O



*Let me
guess,
the
three
wise
men,
right?*

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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support